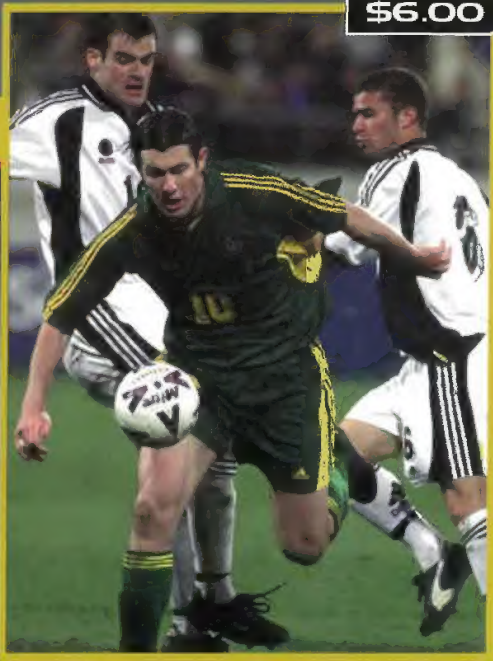
THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

$6.00

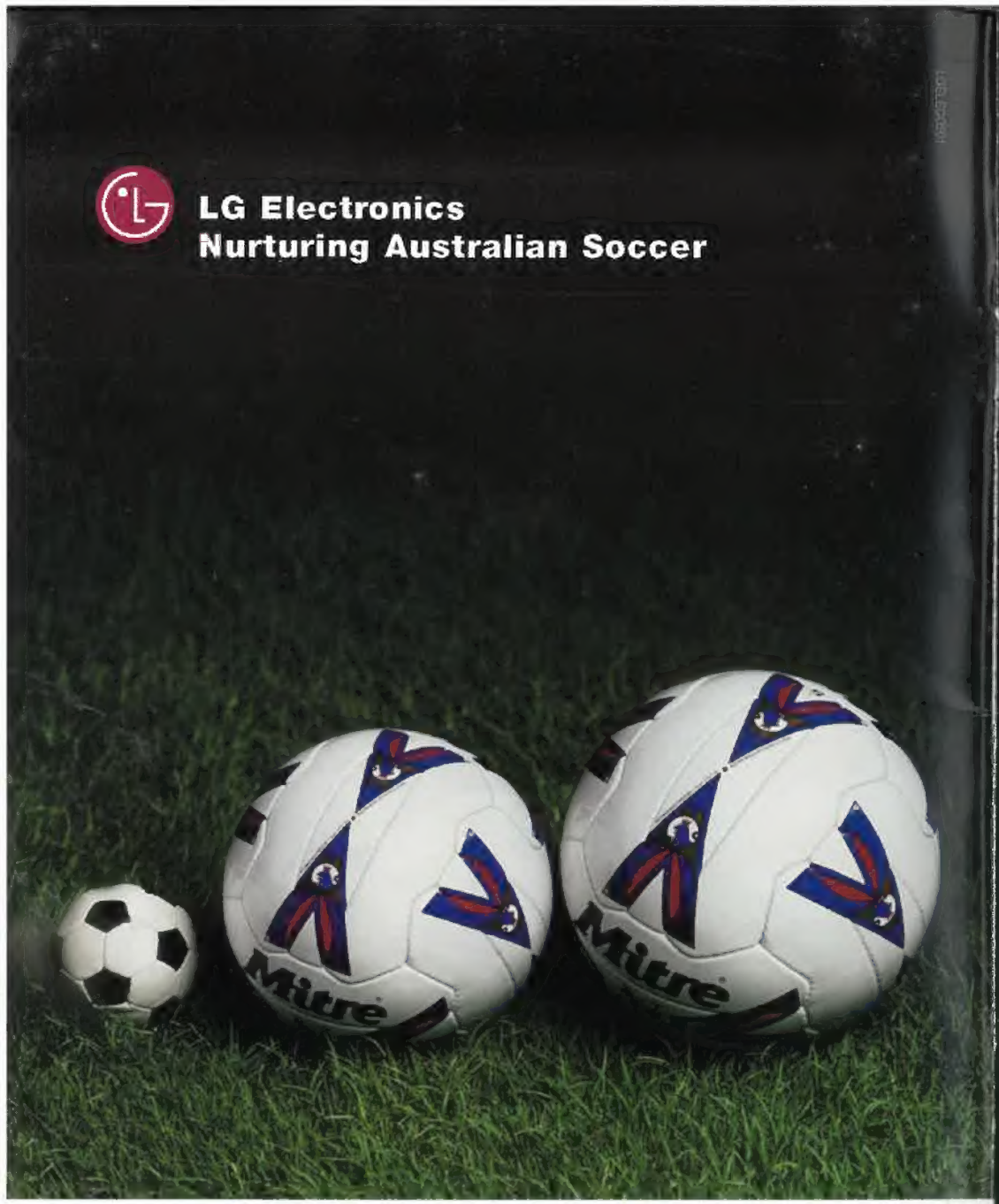


FINAL OFC WORLD CUP QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

LG SOCCEROOS VS NEW ZEALAND

LG 7sport QANTAS Telstra International Entertainment Corporation

LG Electronics
Nurturing Australian Soccer



For the first time, one company is providing Australian Soccer with the resources it needs for a healthy development at all levels of the game. From grass roots, which includes more than 350,000 registered juniors, through to the LG Socceroos, Australia's premier national team, LG Electronics will be giving its support on and off the field.

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Clayton Zane with Ryan Nelson in hot pursuit

David Zdrilic eyes the ball with Ivan Vicelich closing in.

Published on behalf of SOCCER AUSTRALIA Level 3, 447 Kent Street (PO Box Q1645, QVB Post Office) Sydney NSW 1230 Ph: (02) 9267 0799 Fax: (02) 9267 2599 **IEC:** Level 8, 58 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000 Ph: (02) 9251 0222 Fax: (02) 9251 0333 **Publishers:** Australian Sports Publications 1-330 Fitzgerald Street North Perth WA 6006 Ph: (08) 9227 5007 Fax: (08) 9227 7049 Email: asp@q-net.net.au **Photography:** Digital Images by ALLSPORT www.allsport.com.au **Artwork & Design:** Unicorn Design Ph: (08) 9227 5007 Kent B Howard • Kreations **Contributions:** Ray Gatt, The Australian, Andrew Howe **Editor:** Bob Gordon **Sub Editor/Writer:** David Franklin.

On behalf of the Board of Soccer Australia, it is my pleasure to once again welcome you to a World Cup Qualifying series between the LG Socceroos and New Zealand.

It is difficult to believe that four years have already passed since traditional rivals, Australia and New Zealand, went into battle to decide who would represent the Oceania Football Confederation in the final stage of the World Cup Qualification Process.

With the Qualifying Campaigns for the Under-17 and Under-20 teams already completed, this Home and Away series will mark the third time that Australia and New Zealand have met in FIFA accredited competitions this year.

The celebrated trans-Tasman rivalry between the LG Socceroos and New Zealand All Whites will undoubtedly result in a spectacular match today, and I would like to extend our warmest welcome to the New Zealand National Team.

To our joint-venture partner for this series, the International Entertainment Corporation (IEC), as well as our corporate sponsors - LG Electronics, adidas Australia, Telstra, Qantas, the Seven Network, News Limited, and the Australian Sports Commission - I would like to offer our thanks for your commitment and support to Australian soccer across all levels of the game.

As the major sponsor of Soccer Australia and the LG National Teams, I would also like to take this opportunity to particularly acknowledge LG Electronics who have supported the LG Socceroos along every step of this World Cup Campaign.

Finally, on behalf of everyone at Soccer Australia, and in the spirit of Fair Play, I wish both teams all the best for the series, and look forward to watching an Oceania nation compete in next year's FIFA World Cup in Korea/Japan.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Labbozzetta
Chairman,
SOCCER AUSTRALIA

Dear Soccer Fans,

On behalf of LG Electronics, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to this exciting final OFC World Cup Qualifying Tournament between two champion teams, the LG Socceroos and New Zealand.

We are greatly honored to be associated with the LG Socceroos, and indeed Australian soccer in general.

Like soccer, LG is growing in Australia. As a global manufacturer of electronic products, LG is leading the way in product innovations that will set the standard in the digital era of the new millennium. Our new corporate identity, Digital LG focuses on our ability to produce digitally advanced products, which are easy to use, making life good for you and your family.

LG's vision reflects the vision for soccer in Australia – to be the best. With these parallel goals LG and Soccer Australia will work together to ensure both these visions become reality.

Accordingly, we have made a commitment to supporting the growth of soccer in Australia, through a Grass Roots program, which reaches more than half a million young soccer players nationally. We believe that the future of soccer in Australia is dependent upon our youth, and with LG's backing, we can ensure the kids of today become tomorrow's LG Socceroos.

GO LG Socceroos!

Christopher Kim
Managing Director
LG Electronics Australia

Once again the traditional rivals of Australia and New Zealand play off to determine the Oceania Champion.

Australia completed the Group One Tournament in first place in April by beating American Samoa, Fiji, Samoa and Tonga, whilst New Zealand emerged as victors in the recent Group Two Tournament against the Cook Islands, Solomon Islands, Tahiti and Vanuatu.

Throughout both preliminary qualifying tournaments, it has been pleasing to note that the standard of football in island countries continues to improve with good performances by all participants, and I am sure that it won't be too long before we see an island country in this playoff series.

This year's play-off will be an exciting series, with Australia and New Zealand fielding full squads of professional players. For fans of football, this match will be a great opportunity to see some of the best players in world football competing in their own backyard.

Whilst I find it difficult to predict the winner of the series, I am sure that either team will be a good representative of OFC when they take on the 5th placed team from South America for a place in the 2002 FIFA World Cup.

Congratulations to both teams for advancing this far, and on behalf of the OFC Executive Committee, we wish both teams, officials and referees the very best of luck, for what will surely be a great spectacle.

Football cannot be successful unless we have fans and we appreciate the effort of the many soccer supporters who have taken the time and money to attend this World Cup Qualifying Series.

Finally, we look forward to a country from Oceania participating in the 2002 FIFA World Cup Korea/Japan, thus enhancing our chances for direct qualification in the future.

Basil Scarsella
OFC President.

Feet aren't designed to play football.
Why am I down at the whiffy end of Zinedine Zidane?
Simple. His tootsies were not built to kick a ball around all day.
Unless they are looked after, he'll be wearing blisters, corns and calluses
on them instead of our Predator Precision boots. He doesn't want that.
See my warts and all guide to foot care at ikissfootball.com
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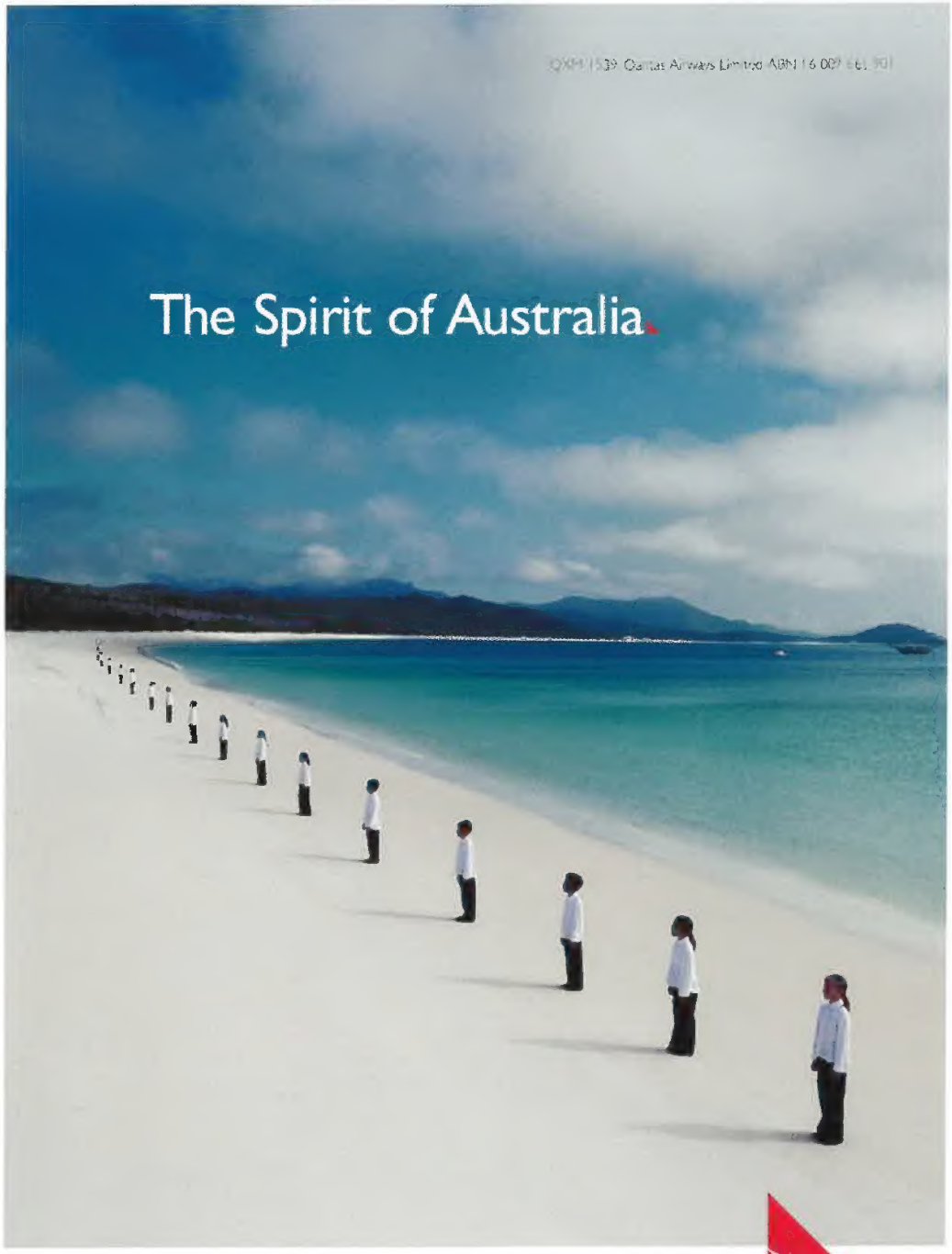


World Stage Beckons For Australasian Victors

THE record book might be heavily weighted in Australia's favour, but it does not appropriately convey the controversy, drama, tension and intense rivalry that exists between the LG Socceroos and New Zealand's All Whites.

Whether it is a friendly or the heat of battle generated by a World Cup qualifier or Nations Cup final, the two countries have always approached any on-field confrontations though it is a matter of life and death.

Of course, the drama usually intensifies when the biggest prize in football is at stake - qualifying for the World Cup finals. The 79-year soccer history between the two countries is littered with myriad tales of heartbreak and success as Australia and New Zealand have battled for Oceania supremacy.

Certainly Australian football fans don't need to be reminded of the grief our arch-rivals from across the Tasman have inflicted on the LG Socceroos, who have had their World Cup dreams unceremoniously pulled from beneath them by the All Whites more than once over the last 20 years.

No matter how strong Australian football is, no matter how poorly the Kiwis might be travelling, World Cup qualifying time seems to bring everything back on an even par.

The World Cup rivalry started back in 1973 when the Rale Rasic-coached Australia played out two draws (1-1 and 3-3) with New Zealand on the way to qualifying for the World Cup finals (West Germany in 1974) for the first time

It says much about the rivalry between the two nations that, even in Australian soccer's greatest hour, it had to be satisfied with the fact it could not get the better of New Zealand. The Kiwis first upset came eight years later when the John Adshead inspired All Whites ended Australia's Cup hopes with a convincing 2-0 win at the Sydney Cricket Ground. New Zealand went on to make their first World Cup finals the following year, leaving the extrovert and controversial Rudi Gutendorf out of a job and Australian soccer lamenting for the next four years.

Four years later and another extrovert, Frank Arok, took the reins of the LG Socceroos and he was to have an immediate impact on Australian soccer at international level. Passionate, and at times crazy, Arok came up with the right formula to outsmart New Zealand twice in a 0-0 draw away from home and a thoroughly professional 2-0 win at the old Sydney Sports Ground when captain John Kosmina produced a wonderful goal to kill off the visitors.

Unfortunately for Australia, the LG Socceroos World Cup finals hopes were eventually dashed by Scotland, who won 2-0 at Hampden Park before escaping with the luckiest of 0-0 draws at Olympic Park.Arok, however, was to experience the bitter taste of defeat at the hands of the All Whites four years later during a round-robin style World Cup qualifying series.

AUSTRALIAN SPORTS COMMISSION

AUSTRALIAN SPORTS COMMISSION

PROUD SUPPORTERS OF AUSTRALIAN SOCCER

The LG Socceroos were in the box seat until John Adshead re-emerged midway through the series to engineer a 2-0 Kiwi victory in Auckland that all but handed the series to Israel. Needing to beat the Israelis in the final match to get to the next stage, Australia could manage only a 1-1 draw at the Sydney Football Stadium in front of a then record crowd of over 43,000. The damage had been done earlier. Arok continued in the job for a few more months before eventually being shown the door and replaced by his former assistant, Eddie Thomson.Thomson brought freshness to Australian soccer and started the Cup domination over the Kiwis that has lasted up to this very day.

The influence of Australia's overseas-based players such as Frank Farina, Mark Bosnich, Aurelio Vidmar, Graham Arnold and Robbie Slater was starting to take effect with the LG Socceroos.They would prove too quick, too skilful and too smart for the Kiwis in the 1993 qualifiers, winning 1-0 in Auckland and 3-0 at Olympic Park in what was described as the best LG Socceroos performance in many years. Australia were eventually dumped from the Cup qualifiers by the Maradona-inspired Argentina, who held on for a 1-1 draw at the SFS before winning the return leg at home 1-0, thanks to a lucky goal.

Although Thomson was given another four years at the helm, he did not see out his contract and the charismatic Terry Venables was appointed in a blaze of publicity - and controversy. Venables, smooth and charming, soon had the media, fans and the players eating out of his hand and it also helped that he had the LG Socceroos on a hot winning streak. His true test, however, was supposed to be against the Kiwis in the 1997 Cup qualifiers.

Venables, of course, passed with flying colours. With a team made up mostly of our foreign legion, the LG Socceroos humbled New Zealand twice - 3-0 in the first leg away from home in a result which effectively ended the tie.The LG Socceroos were just as dominant in the second leg, cruising to a 2-0 victory, which saw them go on to play Iran for the right to go to the Cup finals in France in 1998. And we don't need to be reminded of what happened against Iran. And now former LG Socceroo Frank Farina has taken the reins of the national team - a role he has slipped into quite comfortably and with remarkable success.

Wins over Scotland and Hungary and the recent historic Confederations Cup double over World and European champions France and former world champions Brazil have shown Farina to be a coach who is not out of place with the best on the international stage.Of course he is only too well aware that the recent successes will mean nothing if the LG Socceroos cannot clear the Kiwi hurdle. Now we breathlessly await the next chapter in the thrilling instalment that is the LG Socceroos-All Whites rivalry.

Australia v New Zealand
World Cup qualifiers

1997:	Australia 2 New Zealand 0 Australia 3 New Zealand 0
1993:	Australia 1 New Zealand 0 Australia 3 New Zealand 0
1989:	Australia 4 New Zealand 1 Australia 0 New Zealand 2
1985:	Australia 2 New Zealand 0 Australia 0 New Zealand 0
1981:	Australia 0 New Zealand 2 Australia 3 New Zealand 3
1977:	Australia 3 New Zealand 1 Australia 1 New Zealand 1
1973:	Australia 3 New Zealand 3 Australia 1 New Zealand 1

Played 14: Australia won 7, New Zealand won 2, draws 5.

Overall record (all games, including friendlies)
Played 57: Australia won 34, New Zealand won 12, draws 11.

Winner Australia-New Zealand Oceania World Cup qualifiers will go on to play fifth placed team from South American qualifying group in November.

20th June 2001 • LG Socceroos vs New Zealand (Oceania World Cup Qualifier - 1st Leg) • Result:2-0
Brett Emerton 6'82') • **Venue:** Wellington, New Zealand

Coach: Frank Farina

Lineup: Mark Schwarzer (gk), Tony Vidmar, Tony Popovic, Shaun Murphy, Kevin Muscat, Stan Lazaridis, (Danny Tiatto 68'), Josip Skoko, Paul Okon (captain), Brett Emerton, Steve Corica (David Zdrilic 46'), Clayton Zane (John Aloisi 75').

Emerton double

BRETT EMERTON, Australian soccer's $20 million man, on Wednesday night produced the two goals that helped put the LG Socceroos within touching distance of the final stage of the World Cup qualifiers.

Showing why he is one of the most sought-after players in the world football, Emerton struck in the sixth and 82nd minutes to steer Australia to victory over a courageous New Zealand side in the first leg Oceania qualifier, played in front of almost 20,000 fans at the Westpac Trust Stadium in Wellington.

Now playing with Dutch club Feyenoord, the explosive right-side midfielder almost single-handedly put the LG Socceroos on the road to a showdown later this year with the South American qualifiers and a step closer to a spot at the World Cup finals in Korea and Japan next year. Emerton had provided the LG Socceroos with a dream start when he tapped in a cross from the left from Stan Lazaridis after just six minutes, but it was the second goal late in the game that delivered the killer blow and gave Australia some much needed breathing space.

And it was the sort of opportunistic goal that demonstrated exactly why he is being chased by some of the biggest clubs in Europe.

English Premier League giants Manchester United, Liverpool and Arsenal have indicated that they would like to add Emerton, who was rated the most exciting player in Dutch football last season, to their squads.

Feyenoord have already turned down a $12 million offer for the young Australian and are no doubt expecting the bids to be raised beyond the $20 million mark – perhaps even higher after this effort.

At just 1-0 down, the Kiwis were still very much in the tie but, even allowing for their pluck and determination, they now face a near impossible task to overturn this result when the two teams meet again in the return leg at Stadium Australia.

Kiwi coach Ken Dugdale admitted it was going to take an almighty effort, and plenty of luck, for his team to score the three goals – and at the same time keep Australia scoreless – to secure the necessary result to carry them through to the next stage.

To point out just how difficult a task it will be for the Kiwis, it should be remembered that neither France nor Brazil could crack the magnificent Australian defence during the recent Confederations Cup. "I don't think this series is dead and buried, but we are going to need some luck to get through," Dugdale said.

20th June 2001 • LG Socceroos vs New Zealand (Oceania World Cup Qualifier - 1st Leg) • Result:2-0
Brett Emerton 6'82') • **Venue:** Wellington, New Zealand

Coach: Ken Dugdale

Lineup: Jason Batty, Chris Zoricich (captain), Jonathon Perry (Gerard Davis 71'), Mark Burton, Aaran Lines (Noah Hickey 46'), Chris Jackson, Simon Elliott, Ryan Nelson, Ivan Vicelich, Vaughan Conveny, Chris Killen.

shatters Kiwis

"I thought we were the better side but we were caught cold and it was always going to be tough to come back after that early goal.

"The positive thing is we created some chances but didn't put them away. "I think we can approach the return leg with some confidence if we can build on what we did in the second half."

Australia, on the other hand, can now approach today's match with some confidence, although coach Frank Farina was keen to play down suggestions the tie is over.

"I don't think we played well, but if you had said we could have a 2-0 scoreline before kick-off, I would have gladly signed for it," the Socceroo said.

Farina said there was still 90 minutes to be played, and he and the players would be taking nothing for granted.

"The Kiwis really made it hard for us. They closed us down and kept things tight though I wouldn't say I was too worried during the game," he said.

"We will have another difficult fight on our hands on Sunday."

Certainly, the LG Socceroos were nowhere near their best and were put under tremendous pressure in the second half, after having had the better of the first 45 minutes.

The Kiwis did tremendously well to recover and get back into the game after the early set-back. They were much more positive in the second half, creating several chances – the best falling to Noah Hickey in the 81st minute.

Hickey made a terrific run down the left, cut inside, then unleashed a powerful drive that Australian goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer did well to turn away for a corner.

The game exploded in the final 10 minutes.

First, Emerton produced the important blow, capitalising on an awful blunder from Kiwi goalkeeper Jason Batty.

He tried to steer a backpass to captain Chris Zoricich, only to kick the ball straight to Emerton, who reacted brilliantly to head the ball straight back over Batty into the empty net.

Things turned sour for Australia three minutes later, when substitute Danny Tiatto, who had been on the field only 17 minutes, was red-carded for a crude tackle on his Manchester City team-mate, Chris Killen. Tiatto is now automatically suspended and will miss Sunday's game.

7sport

Spectacular stadium sure to impress

It took less than three years for the site of a crumbling abattoir to be transformed into a sporting masterpiece. And now the LG Socceroos are hoping to slaughter the All Whites in front of their home fans in the spectacular structure known as Stadium Australia.

Statistics about the arena always verge on the impressive, with 550,000 cubic metres of soil being moved in the construction of the 16-hectare site.

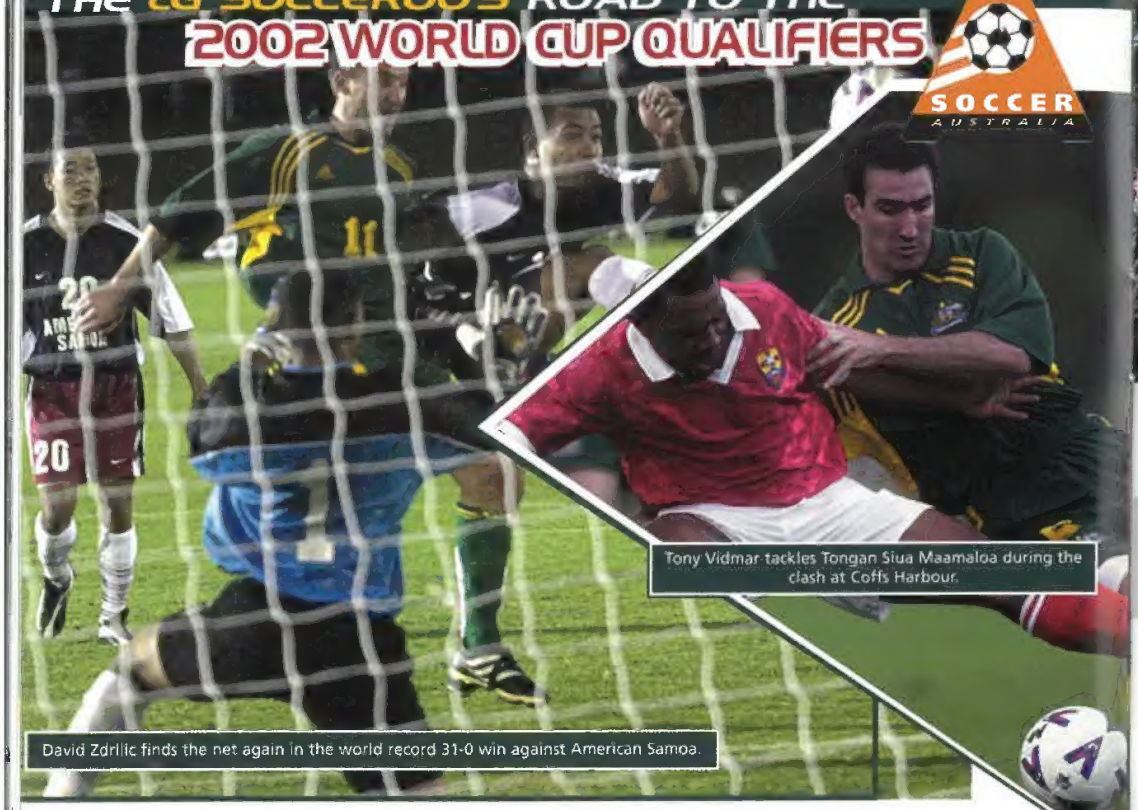
The stadium, which was the largest ever built for an Olympic Games, got its first taste of soccer just over two years ago when the LG Socceroos took on the FIFA World Stars.

Built as the showpiece venue for the 2000 Olympic Games, it can switch between a number of different sporting modes, with its roof covering 75 per cent of the crowd.

It is capable of holding 80,000 soccer fans and stands a massive 58 metres (or 14 storeys) high, dominating the skyline to Sydney's west.

After the 'best ever' Olympic Games finished, the athletics track was removed and the lower tier of seating moved inward by 15 metres - now enabling fans to get even closer to their green and yellow LG Socceroo heroes.

THE LG SOCCEROO'S ROAD TO THE 2002 WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS



Tony Vidmar tackles Tongan Siua Maamaloa during the clash at Coffs Harbour.

David Zdrilic finds the net again in the world record 31-0 win against American Samoa.

Australia's path to their opponents New Zealand couldn't have been any easier as the minnows of world soccer were brushed aside with some impressive displays of goal scoring power. The LG Socceroos finished top of their Oceania Group 1, notching a world record when striker Archie Thompson became the player with the highest goal tally in a single international match after bagging 13 against American Samoa.

AUSTRALIA 22 TONGA 0
Scott Chipperfield, Damian Mori, John Aloisi, Kevin Muscat, Tony Popovic, Tony Vidmar, David Zdrilic, Archie Thompson, Con Boutsianis

Date: April 9, 2001
Venue: Coffs Harbour, Australia.
Referee: Harry Atisson (Vanuatu)

Australia: Clint Bolton (gk); Kevin Muscat, Craig Moore, Tony Popovic, Tony Vidmar, Lindsay Wilson, Hayden Foxe, Steve Corica (Con Boutsianis 69 mins), Scott Chipperfield, John Aloisi (Archie Thompson 73 mins), Damian Mori (David Zdrilic 69 mins).

AUSTRALIA 31 AMERICAN SAMOA 0
Con Boutsianis, Archie Thompson, David Zdrilic, Aurelio Vidmar, Tony Popovic, Simon Colosimo, Fausto de Amicis.

Date: April 11, 2001
Venue: Coffs Harbour, Australia

Australia: Michael Petkovic (gk), Kevin Muscat, Craig Moore, Tony Popovic (Fausto de Amicis 46 mins), Tony Vidmar (Scott Miller 46 mins), Simon Colosimo, Aurelio Vidmar, Steve Horvat, Con Boutsianis, Archie Thompson, David Zdrilic.

AUSTRALIA 2 FIJI 0
Steve Corica, Hayden Foxe

Date: April 14, 2001
Venue: Coffs Harbour International Sports Stadium, Australia
Referee: DerekRugg (New Zealand)

Australia: Clint Bolton (gk); Kevin Muscat, Craig Moore, Tony Popovic, Tony Vidmar, Lindsay Wilson (Simon Colosimo 53 mins), Hayden Foxe, Steve Corica, Con Boutsianis (Scott Chipperfield 65 mins), John Aloisi, Damian Mori (Archie Thompson 70 mins).

AUSTRALIA 11 SAMOA 0
Aurelio Vidmar, David Zdrilic, Hayden Foxe, P Buretaog, Tony Popovicc, Archie Thompson, Scott Chipperfield,

Date: April 16, 2001
Venue: Coffs Harbour, Australia
Referee: Brian Precious (New Zealand)

Australia: Michael Petkovic (gk); Kevin Muscat, Craig Moore, Tony Popovic, Fausto de Amicis, Simon Colosimo, Hayden Foxe (Damian Mori 46 mins), Aurelio Vidmar, Scott Chipperfield, David Zdrilic, Archie Thompson.

	Played	Win	Draw	Loss	GF	GA	GD	Total
AUSTRALIA	4	4	0	0	6	0	+66	12
FIJI	4	3	0	1	27	4	+23	9
TONGA	4	2	0	2	7	30	-23	6
SAMOA	4	1	0	3	9	18	-9	3
AMERICAN SAMOA	4	0	0	4	0	57	–57	0

NEW ZEALAND'S ROAD TO THE 2002 WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

The All Whites performed convincingly in their group Oceania Qualifying Group B matches, notching up four straight wins. They finished top of the table with 12 points, and only conceded one goal against the Solomon Islands, with a pretty healthy goal difference of +18.

NEW ZEALAND 2
COOK ISLANDS 0
Noah Hickey 65, 66 min

Date: June 3
Referee: Brett Hugo (Australia)

TAHITI 0
NEW ZEALAND 5
Vaughan Coveny 41, 56, 71 min
Aaran Lines 53 min
Jonathon Perry 88 min

Date: June 6
Referee: Leslie Irvine (N. Ireland)

NEW ZEALAND 5
SOLOMON ISLANDS 1
Vaughan Coveny 27, 50 min
Batrum Suri 85 min
Chris Jackson 32, 55 min
Paul Urlovic 67 min

Date: June 11
Referee: Intaz Shah (Fiji)

NEW ZEALAND 7
VANUATU 0
Vaughan Coveny 2, 7, 29 min
Chris Jackson 24 min
Aaran Lines 27 min
Mark Burton 62 min
Ivan Vicelich 68 min

Date: June 13
Referee: Leslie Irvine (N.Ireland)

Mark Burton one of the goalscorers against Vanuatu sheilds the ball under pressure from Josip Skoko

	Played	Win	Draw	Loss	GF	GA	GD	Total
NEW ZEALAND	4	4	0	0	19	1	+18	12
TAHITI	4	3	0	1	14	6	+8	9
SOLOMON ISLANDS	4	2	0	2	17	10	+7	6
VANUATU	4	1	0	3	11	21	-10	3
COOK ISLANDS	4	0	0	4	2	25	-25	0

LG SOCCEROOS AT COFFS HARBOUR

Back Row: Lindsay Wilson, Scott Chipperfield, Clint Bolton, Hayden Foxe, Tony Popovic, Steve Horvat, Michael Petkovic, David Zdrilic, Scott Miller.
Middle Row: Con Boutsianis, Simon Colosimo, Kevin Muscat, Damian Mori, Aurelio Vidmar, Steve Corica, John Aloisi.
Front Row: Craig Moore, Tony Vidmar, Frank Farina, Archie Thompson, Fausto DeAmicis.

LG SOCCEROOS

Telstra

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LG SOCCEROOS

JOHN ALOISI

• striker • born February 5, 1976 • plays for Coventry in England's Premier League • previous clubs Portsmouth, Cremonese, Royal Antwerp, Standard Liege, Adelaide City • 188cm, 83kg • 20 senior appearances, 14 goals • debut against Macedonia in the 1-0 win in March 1997.

MARKO BRESCIANO

• midfielder • born February 11, 1980 • plays for Empoli in Italy's Serie B • previous club Carlton • 172cm, 76kg • he has made four senior appearances • his debut was against World and European Champions France in the 1-0 win in June 2001.

SCOTT CHIPPERFIELD

• striker • born December 30, 1975 • he plays for Wollongong Wolves in the National Soccer League • 180cm, 70 kg • he has made 18 senior appearances and scored six goals • his debut was against Fiji in the 3-1 win in September 1998.

www.socceraustralia.com.au

LG Socceroos Profiles

STEVE CORICA

• midfielder • born March 24, 1973 • plays for Sanfrecce Hiroshima in Japan's J League • previous clubs Wolverhampton Wanderers, Leicester City, Marconi Stallions • 173cm, 68kg • 37 senior appearances, 7 goals • his debut was against Kuwait in 1-0 win in April 1993.

BRETT EMERTON

• midfielder • born February 22, 1979 • plays for Feyenoord in Holland's First Division • previous club Sydney Olympic • 185cm, 85kg • he has made 22 senior appearances and scored two goals • his debut was made against Chile in the 1-0 loss in February 1998.

HAYDEN FOXE

• defender • born June 23, 1977 • plays for West Ham in England's Premier League • previous clubs Mechelen, Sanfrecce Hiroshima, Arminia Bielefeld, Ajax Amsterdam • 193cm, 84kg • 14 senior appearances, 2 goals • his debut was against USA in 0-0 draw in November 1998

STEVE HORVAT

• defender • born March 4, 1971 • plays for Melbourne Knights in the National Soccer League • previous clubs Carlton, Hajduk Splitia, Melbourne Knights • 186cm, 85 kg • 26 senior appearances, 0 goals • his debut was against South Africa in the 1-0 win in 1994.

ZELJKO KALAC

• goalkeeper • born December 16,1972 • plays for Roda JC Kerrkrade in Holland's First Division • previous clubs Sydney United, Leicester City, Wolverhampton Wanderers • 202cm, 91kg • 41 senior appearances • made debut against Malaysia in the 1-0 loss August 1992

STAN LAZARIDIS

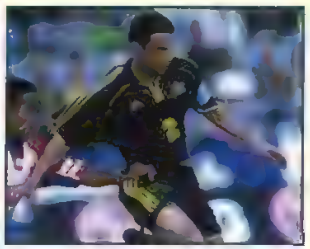
• defender/midfielder • born August 16, 1972 • plays for Birmingham City in England's First Division • his previous clubs were West Ham, Adelaide Sharks • 175cm, 76kg • 50 senior appearances, 0 goals • his debut was made against Kuwait in the 1-0 win in April 1993.

CRAIG MOORE

• defender • born December 12, 1975 • he plays for Glasgow Rangers in Scotland's Premier League • his previous club was Crystal Palace • 186cm, 76kg • eighteen senior appearances, one goal • his debut was made against Ghana in the 1-0 win in June 1995.

SHAUN MURPHY

• defender • born November 5, 1970 • plays for Sheffield United in England's First Division • previous clubs West Bromwich Albion, Notts County, Heidelberg, Blacktown City• 185cm, 76kg • 15 senior appearances, 3 goals • debut against Chile in the 2-1 loss February 2000.



KEVIN MUSCAT

• defender • born August 7 1973 • plays for Wolves in England's 1st Division • previous clubs Crystal Palace, South Melbourne, Heidelberg, Sunshine • 180cm, 73kg • 37 senior appearances, nine goals • his debut was against Kuwait in the 0-0 draw in September 1994.

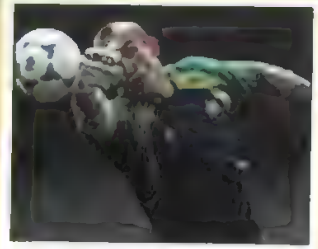
LG Socceroos Profiles

PAUL OKON

• midfielder • born April 5, 1972 • plays for Middlesbrough in England's Premier League • previous clubs Fiorentina, Lazio, FC Bruges, Marconi Stallions • 180cm, 80kg • 29 senior appearances, one goal • his debut was against Czechoslovakia in the 2-0 loss in February 1991.

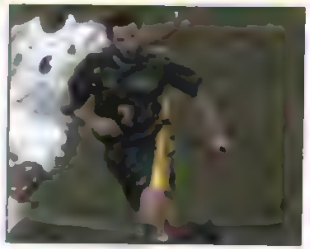
TONY POPOVIC

• defender • born July 4, 1973 • he plays for Sanfrecce Hiroshima in Japan's J League • his previous club was Sydney United • 193cm, 90kg • 39 senior appearances, seven goals • his debut was made against Colombia in the 1-0 loss in February 1995.



MARK SCHWARZER

• goalkeeper • born October 6, 1972 • plays for Middlesbrough in England's Premier League • previous clubs Bradford City, Kaiserslautern, Dynamo Dresden, Marconi Stallions • 196cm, 86kg • 15 senior appearances • debut against Canada in the 2-1 loss July 1993.



JOSIP SKOKO

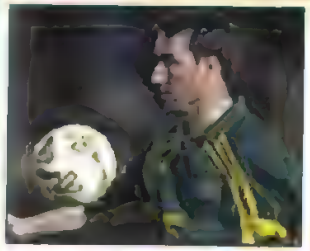
• midfielder• born December 10, 1975 • he plays for Racing Genk in Belgium's First Division • his previous club was Hajduk Split • 177cm, 77kg • he has made 19 senior appearances and scored two goals • his debut was made against Macedonia in the 1-0 win in March 1997

MILE STERJOVSKI

• striker • born May 27, 1979 • plays for Lille in France's First Division • previous clubs Parramatta Power, Sydney United, Wollongong Wolves • 180cm, 79kg • three senior appearances • his debut was made against Scotland in the 2-0 win in November 2000.

DANNY TIATTO

• midfielder • born May 22, 1973 • plays for Manchester City in England's Premier League • previous clubs Stoke City, Salernitana, Melbourne Knights • 175cm, 73kg • 22 senior appearances, one goal • his debut was against Colombia in the 0-0 draw in February 1995.



TONY VIDMAR

• defender • born July 4, 1970 • plays for Glasgow Rangers in Scotland's Premier League • previous clubs NAC Breda, Adelaide City, Exeren • 187cm, 80kg • 63 senior appearances, two goals • his debut was against Czechoslovakia in the 2-0 loss in February 1991

CLAYTON ZANE

• striker • born July 12, 1977 • plays for Lillestrom in Norway's First Division • previous clubs Mo de, Northern Spirit, Newcastle Breakers • 188cm, 90kg • 15 senior appearances, seven goals • debut against the Czech Republic in the 3-1 loss in March 2000.

DAVID ZDRILIC

• striker • born April 13, 1974 • plays for Spvgg Unterhaching in Germany's Bundesliga • previous clubs Ssv Ulm, FC Aarau, Sydney United • 183cm, 80kg • 19 senior appearances, 16 goals • his debut was against New Zealand in the 1-0 win in January 1997.

New Zealand Profiles

New Zealand coach Ken Dugdale has been looking after the All Whites since 1998. His honours include National Team Oceania Champions 1999, FIFA Confederations Cup 1999, and New Zealand Coach of the Year 1999.

Dugdale, who played for Gisborne City between 1972 and 1974, took up his first managerial job in 1988 when he was appointed director of coaching at Wanganui FA. He went on to become the assistant coach for the national team in 1994 while also coaching the Western Suburbs until 1998.

His responsibilities increased when he was given the National Youth Team job as well. He remains New Zealand's national director of football.

Dugdale has assembled a 21-man squad from players dotted all around the world. Here's a closer look at his All Whites.

MARK ATKINSON
DOB: 16.2.70
POSITION: Midfield
CLUB: Eastern Pride
HEIGHT: 177cm
WEIGHT: 73kg
INT CAPS: 31

JAMES BANNATYNE
DOB: 30.6.75
POSITION: Goalkeeper
CLUB: Miramar Rangers FC
HEIGHT: 196 cm
WEIGHT: 95 kg
INT CAPS: -

JASON BATTY
DOB: 23.3.71
POSITION: Goalkeeper
CLUB: Scunthorpe United FC
HEIGHT: 185 cm
WEIGHT: 83 kg
INT CAPS: 43

MARK BURTON
DOB: 18.5.74
POSITION: Midfield
CLUB: Football Kingz
HEIGHT: 180cm
WEIGHT: 75 kg
INT CAPS: 16

New Zealand Profiles

VAUGHAN COVENY
DOB: 13.12.71
POSITION: Striker
CLUB: Stn Melbourne
HEIGHT: 190 cm
WEIGHT: 84 kg
INT CAPS: 54

GERARD DAVIS
DOB: 25.9.77
POSITION: Midfield
CLUB: Football Kingz
HEIGHT: 177 cm
WEIGHT: 70 kg
INT CAPS: 6

SEAN DOUGLAS
DOB: 8.5.72
POSITION: Defender
CLUB: Football Kingz
HEIGHT: 185 cm
WEIGHT: 80 kg
INT CAPS: 24

SIMON ELLIOTT
DOB: 10.6.74
POSITION: Midfield
CLUB: LA Galaxy
HEIGHT: 181 cm
WEIGHT: 78 kg
INT CAPS: 37

NOAH HICKEY
DOB: 9.6.78
POSITION: Striker
CLUB: Football Kingz
HEIGHT: 175 cm
WEIGHT: 75 kg
INT CAPS: 9

CHRIS JACKSON
DOB: 18.7.70
POSITION: Midfield
CLUB: Football Kingz
HEIGHT: 178 cm
WEIGHT: 74 kg
INT CAPS: 52

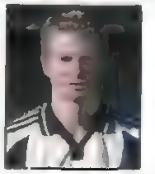
CHRIS KILLEN
DOB: 8.10.81
POSITION: Striker
CLUB: Manchester City FC
HEIGHT: 185 cm
WEIGHT: 80 kg
INT CAPS: 7

AARAN LINES
DOB: 27.12.76
POSITION: Midfield/Striker
CLUB: Football Kingz
HEIGHT: 177 cm
WEIGHT: 72 kg
INT CAPS: 12

RYAN NELSEN
DOB: 18.10.77
POSITION: Defender
CLUB: DC United
HEIGHT: 182 cm
WEIGHT: 86 kg
INT CAPS: 13

HEREMAIA NGATA
DOB: 24.8.71
POSITION: Midfield
CLUB: Football Kingz
HEIGHT: 178 cm
WEIGHT: 75 kg
INT CAPS: 33

ROSS NICHOLSON
DOB: 8.8.75
POSITION: Goalkeeper
CLUB: Central United FC
HEIGHT: 186 cm
WEIGHT: 90 kg
INT CAPS: 9



JONATHAN PERRY
DOB: 22.11.76
POSITION: Midfield
CLUB: Football Kingz
HEIGHT: 185 cm
WEIGHT: 80 kg
INT CAPS: 20

SCOTT SMITH
DOB: 6.3.75
POSITION: Defender
CLUB: Woking FC
HEIGHT: 175cm
WEIGHT: 76kg
INT CAPS: 21

JONATHON TAYLOR
DOB: 12.9.79
POSITION: Defender
CLUB: Napier City Rovers
HEIGHT: 189cm
WEIGHT: 77kg
INT CAPS: -

IVAN VICELICH
DOB: 3.9.76
POSITION: Defender
CLUB: Roda JC
HEIGHT: 190 cm
WEIGHT: 84 kg
INT CAPS: 29

CHRIS ZORICICH
DOB: 3.7.69
POSITION: Midfield/Striker
CLUB: Newcastle United FC
HEIGHT: 180 cm
WEIGHT: 81 kg
INT CAPS: 56

FIRED-UP

farina on a mission

With a career that took him from Australia's east coast to the highly competitive leagues of Italy, Belgium and France, Frank Farina is hoping to duplicate his playing success by qualifying for the World Cup for only the second time in Australia's history.

He turned out 37 times for the LG Socceroos, scoring a healthy 10 goals, as well as playing in the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul.

His haul of major honours includes championships with Sydney City, Marconi, Brugge, and the Brisbane Strikers.

At his peak in the late 1980s, Farina was not only the Players' Player of the Year in 1987 and 1988, but also the National Soccer League's top scorer for both seasons and the 1988 Oceania Player of the Year.

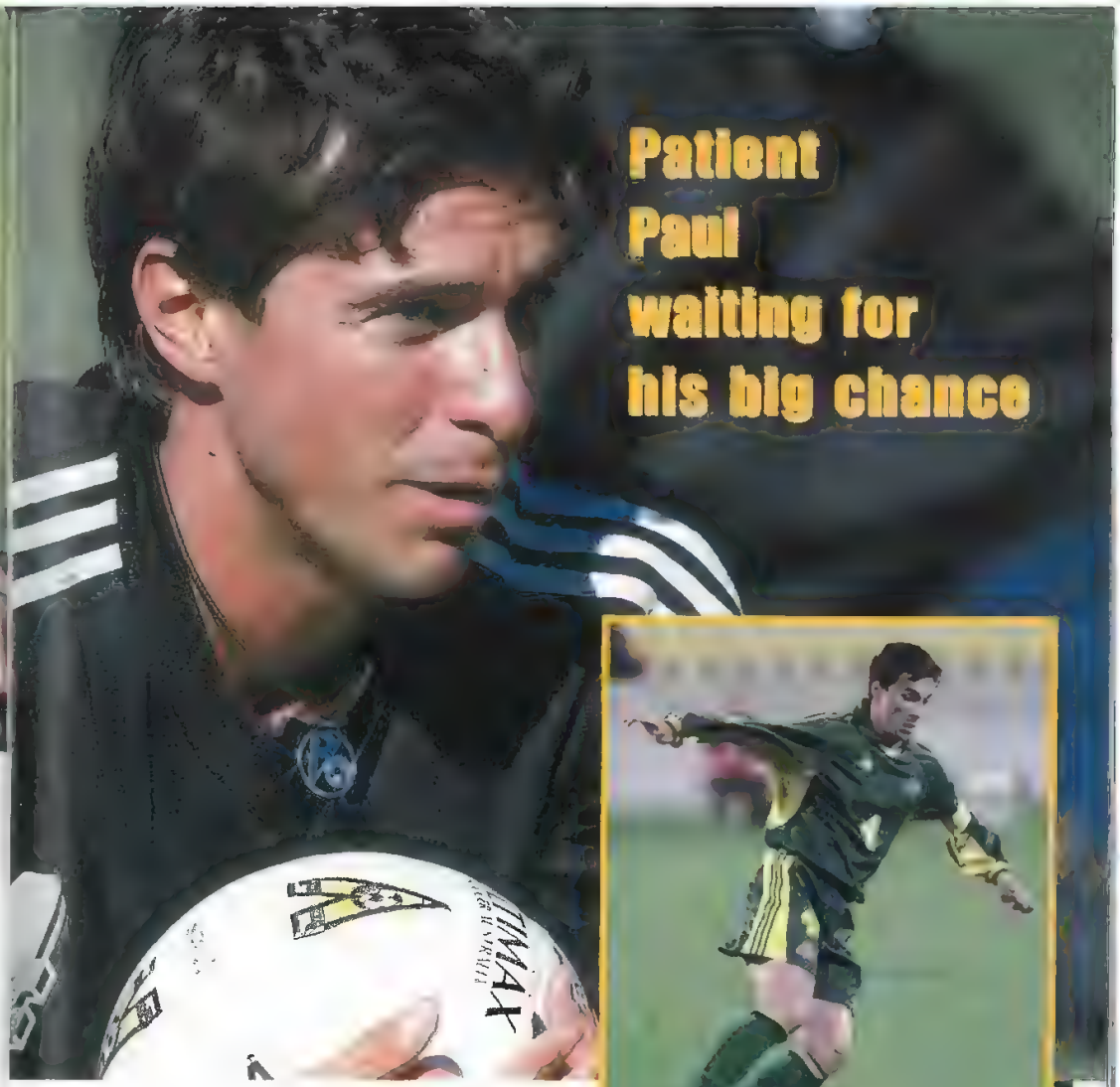
Farina went onto be voted the best foreign player in Belgium in 1989/90.

Born on September 5, 1964 in Darwin, Farina took up his first managerial position at Brisbane Strikers where he guided them to the championship in 1997 before leaving for Marconi and the LG Socceroos. After taking up Australia's top soccer job in September 1999, Farina has won a host of admirers for his team's excellent showing in the Confederations Cup, which saw wins against Mexico, France, and Brazil.

The eventual third place position has helped push the LG Socceroos up from their 68th world ranking before the tournament.

Farina knows the country will only be happy with World Cup qualification, especially as it will help ease the agony of just failing to qualify for France 98 with the infamous 2-2 draw against Iran. But he now believes there is enough depth in the squad to set the country on the road to good times in the 2002 World Cup.

Patient Paul waiting for his big chance



Veteran midfielder Paul Okon knows all about World Cup qualifying matches, and is now hoping that his third campaign will finally end in success.

The injury-prone 29-year-old, who was on the pitch during Australia's horror show against Iran nearly four years ago, knows that this afternoons clash against the All Whites could be his last chance. He made his senior debut more than a decade ago, but the Middlesbrough lynch-pin has been dogged by a troublesome knee problem and has only just returned to full fitness in the last couple of years.

Domestic success has come in the form of two championships and two cup medals during his time in Belgium, as well as twice winning Australian Young Player of the Year, but the ambitious Okon has always had his sights fixed on the biggest soccer tournament in the world.

He is one of the genuine world-class players within the LG Socceroos squad, having held his own with Lazio in Italy's Serie A, while earning comparisons with Franz Beckenbauer from the great man himself. The time is now right for the 1996 Belgian Player of the Year to take his place alongside the world greats of the game - but first he must make sure the LG Socceroos finish off the Kiwis.

Zaney LG Socceroo nearing his peak

THE future looks bright for Clayton Zane after his strong showing at the Confederations Cup. He may have been routinely criticized in the past, but there's little doubt he came of international age during this tournament.

The 23-year-old got to test his mettle against the first and second ranked teams in the world in the space of just over a week, establishing himself as the key Australian striker in the process.

The red card against South Korea may have blotted his copybook, but that wasn't quite enough to overshadow his goal against France which handed the World and European champions only their second defeat this year.

Pouncing on a rebound from Josip Skoko's free-kick, Zane's goal gave the LG Socceroos one of their most famous victories. He also showed good form in the equally impressive 1-0 win against Brazil, helping to reverse the 6-0 thrashing the South.

American soccer kings handed out in the 1997 Confederations Cup final.

Expectations are high for him to repeat his performances against New Zealand and add to his seven-goal tally, especially as Kewell and Viduka are not playing.

But coach Frank Farina has already publicly said that Zane can now compete against the best teams in the world and hold his own comfortably.

Super Schwarzer has Australia's future in his hands

Mark Schwarzer has just established himself as the first choice between the posts with coach Frank Farina believing that he is one of the top ten goalkeepers in the world.

The imposing keeper, who stands 196cm, is the latest in an increasingly long line of Australian players making names for themselves in the English Premier League.

He has now firmly replaced former star Mark Bosnich as Australia's automatic choice, with his fine form for Middlesbrough recently forcing him to deny rumours that he is about to move to top side Arsenal

Sydney born Schwarzer, who began his career with Marconi Sydney, has now made more than 100 appearances for Boro.

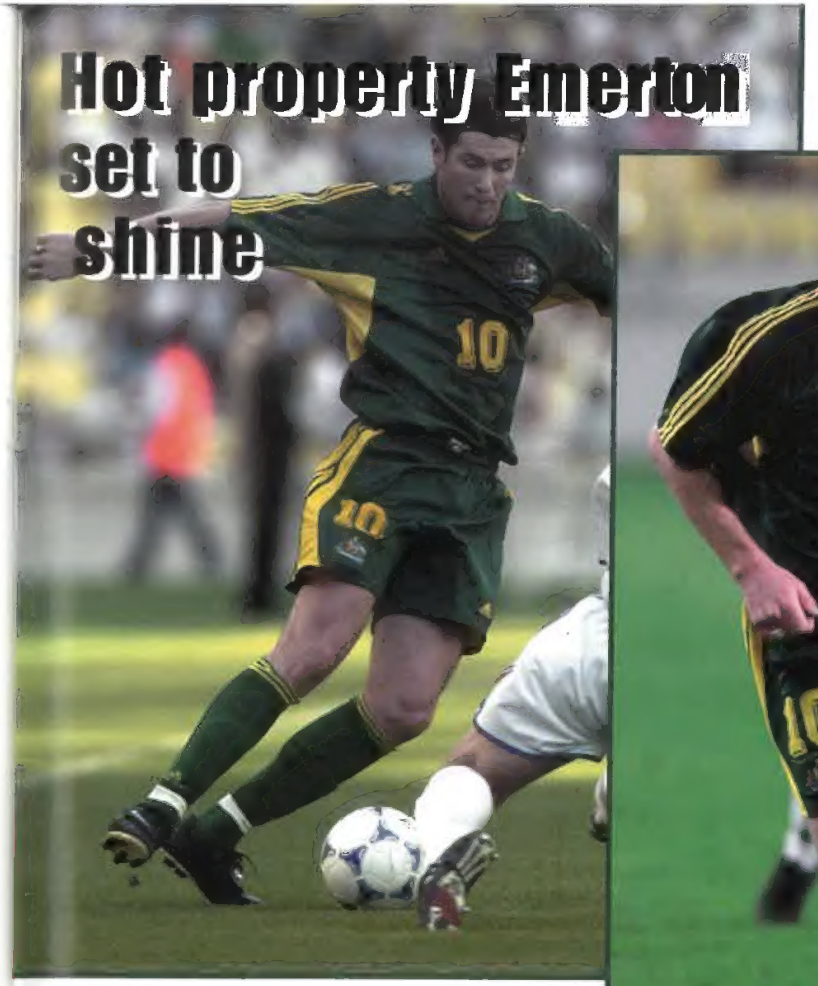
Like team-mate Clayton Zane, he also caught the eye during the Confederations Cup, especially when he made a stunning save from a looping header with five minutes left to preserve the LG Socceroos 1-0 historic victory against France.

He also kept a clean sheet against Mexico, made a great fingertip save against South Korea, and was instrumental in keeping the Brazilians scoreless.

In particular, he made two saves within five minutes of the half-time break before making crucial further blocks as Brazil looked for an equaliser.

The All Whites will certainly have to be at their best to find a way past the giant keeper.

Hot property Emerton set to shine



After making his debut in the NSL with Sydney Olympic in November 1996, midfielder Brett Emerton is just beginning to prove he has what it takes to compete at the highest level.

Arguably the hottest up and coming Australian player in the world, the 22-year-old is now pursuing his soccer dreams on European pitches after following the likes of Harry Kewell and Mark Viduka abroad.

The former Olyroos captain, now based with Dutch club Feyenoord, is physically strong and fast, with the happy knack of being able to get forward to score goals as well.
His precocious talent has impressed managers all over the world from day one, and he was offered the chance to join Leeds United's elite youth program as a starry-eyed 15-year-old.
Strict work permit regulations got in the way, but his disappointment did not stop him from going on to represent Australia in three World Youth Championships.

He made his full international debut against Chile in 1998 but it wasn't until he came on as a second-half substitute against the FIFA World Stars a year later that he really began to make a name for himself.

He upstaged the likes of Inter Milan's Christian Vieri (then the world's most expensive soccer player) and German legend Jurgen Klinsmann by scoring with just his second touch. The stage is now set for this talented right-winger to play a full part in the World Cup finals as well.

MEMORIES FROM A GREAT CONFEDERATIONS CUP

Clayton Zane celebrates his match-winning goal against France

Bronze medallist Australia may not have made it all the way to the final as they did in 1977, but they certainly went home with some significant soccer scalps.

Mexico, Brazil and even World Champions france, fell to Farina's men as they made fans all over the world sit up and take notice.

After the competition, the LG Socceroos shot 18 places up FIFA's world, rankings to 50th.

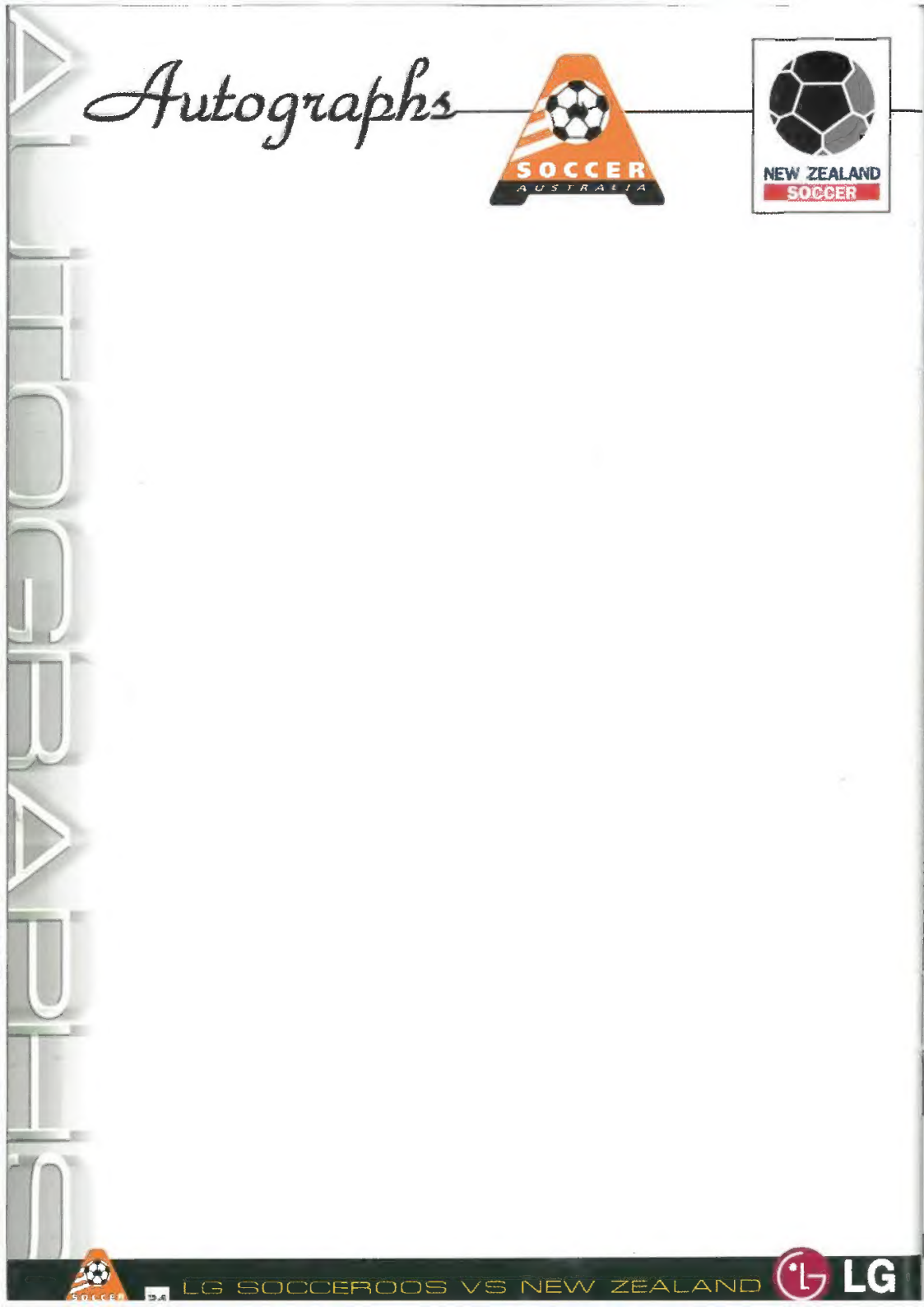
It would seem the morale-boosting tournament has provided the necessary springboard for the final World Cup Qualifiers against New Zealand, with the LG Socceroos nicely poised to finish the job they started so well on Wednesday.

Hero - Clayton Zane is swamped by his team mates after netting against France

Kevin Muscat is the first to congratulate Josip Skoko on his second-half strike against Mexico

Tony Popovic and John Aloisi enjoy a light hearted moment.

Autographs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LG
Life's Good

PLAYED AT STADIUM AUSTRALIA DATE 24.6.01 TIME 3:00PM

LG SOCCEROOS VS NEW ZEALAND

1.	Mark Schwarzer
2.	Kevin Muscat
3.	Craig Moore
4.	Paul Okon
5.	Tony Vidmar
6.	Tony Popovic
7.	Josip Skoko
8.	Stan Lazaridis
9.	John Aloisi
10.	Brett Emerton
11.	David Zdrilic
12.	Zeljko Kalac
13.	Marco Bresciano
14.	Shaun Murphy
16.	Steve Horvat
17.	Steve Corica
19.	Danny Tiatto
20.	Clayton Zane

COACH
Frank Farina

Colours - Green & Yellow

1.	Jason Batty
3.	Sean Douglas
4.	Chris Zoricich
5.	Jonathon Perry
6.	Noah Hickey
7.	Mark Burton
8.	Aaran Lines
10.	Chris Jackson
11.	Simon Elliott
12.	Mark Atkinson
13.	Heremaia Ngata
14.	Ryan Nelson
15.	Ivan Vicelich
16.	Vaughan Coveny
17.	Chris Killen
18.	Scott Smith
19.	Ross Nicholson
20.	Gerard Davis

COACH
Ken Dugdale

Colours - Black & white

Referee: Kwon Jong Chul, Korea Republic Assistant Referee 1: Kim Dae Young, Korea Republic
Assistant Referee 2: Kim Hyun Gu, Korea Republic Fourth Official: Park Sang Gu, Korea Republic
Commissioner: Dempsey Charles J, New Zealand Referee Inspector: Taga Yves, Vanuatu

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